

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please delete in its entirety the ABSTRACT on page 113,  
lines 1-17 and replace with the following:

**ABSTRACT**

A radiographic image reading system includes a cassette to record radiographic image information on a recording medium, the recording medium having a front member, and a back member. An apparatus to read out the radiographic image information includes an insertion section, a conveying section, a separation section to separate the back member from the front member, a holding section to hold the back member and the recording medium, a scanning section to read out the information, a peeling off section to peel off the back member and the recording medium, and a combination section to combine the separated front member with the back member and the recording medium again, wherein the peeling off section performs the peeling off after combining the front and back members again. A detection section is provided to detect misholding of the back member or the recording medium, and a control section is provided to control the apparatus to prevent damage of the apparatus and the cassette.